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A2012-54

NOV 02 2011

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50235

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 24, 2011

Ruth Goldway  
Chair PRC  
901 New York Ave. NW  
Suite 200  
Washington D.C.  
20268-0001

Dear Ms. Goldway;

This letter is written as an appeal regarding the closure of the Rippey, Iowa Post Office. The closure of the Rippey Post Office by the United States Postal Service is Docket Number 1379407-50235.

This appeal is being submitted for not completely following the closure process. The items that were not completed adequately are listed below:

1. The document submitted and posted at the Rippey Post Office on October 20, 2011 fails to once again recognize the congressional responses presented on behalf of the Rippey Post Office. I referenced those documentation letters to Angie Green on June 7<sup>th</sup>. I have attached all communication from Iowa Senator's Harkin and Grassley as well as Congressman Latham. It is appalling the Congressional letters have not been recognized.
2. While the USPS has not provided formal notification of closure, the telephone number is not available in the phone book that was released last week. This only reinforces what community citizens in Rippey have previously expressed, that this decision has been determined. I submit to you the community input hearings; the petitions, the letters, etc have all been completed in vain as the USPS had no intention of responding to the 175 signatures or really listening to the 59 customers who attended the public hearing on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The USPS is only **portraying** they are following the requirements prescribed for postal review. The process as it is being administered by the USPS has and is very flawed.
3. The ineffectiveness of the United States Postal Service distribution Center in Sioux City Iowa has resulted in wasteful spending. 40 employees are reported in the *Des Moines Register* to not report to work, may not be transferred, and will be receiving full employment for the next three years. This inefficiency and wasting of funds could have kept the Rippey Post Office open for perpetuity.
4. The assurance of postal services from the carrier is simply a false statement. While it may appear on paper to be no changing of services, it is totally unrealistic to believe that any postal patron will wait by the cluster boxes for the carrier to arrive. Any person stating that sending a package, obtaining a money order, or stamps during an exchange outside of a

building has not been a part of a Midwestern winter when wind chills quite frequently dip to below zero.

I close this appeal letter continuing to plea for a common sense approach to sharing of postal office services with an adjoining community. I feel quite confident the annual lease costs of \$19,200 per year could be quite easily negotiated to a lower amount. The cost savings of building cluster boxes could be negated by using that approach. The recognition to keep the service window open shorter hours to aid the USPS in saving funds is commendable as well as acceptable, thus reducing the salary of \$44,000. The officer in charge could for example more easily move from Rippey to a neighboring post office than asking the current 70 box holders to travel for purchases and services. The service window being open for two hours could certainly be accomplished with a bit of creativity and ingenuity from the USPS.

I implore you to review all options during this appeal process.

I will wait to hear your response to this appeal letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary Weaver', written in dark ink.

Mary Weaver  
Postal Patron of the Rippey Iowa Post Office

Cc: Senator Charles Grassley  
Senator Tom Harkin  
Congressman Tom Latham  
Dean Granholm, VP Delivery and PO Operations  
Karen Lenane, PO Review Coordinator  
Donny Hobbs, Chair of Iowans United for Postal Services  
Kyle Munson, Des Moines Register  
Rippey Iowa Post Office Bulletin Board